

VZCZCXYZ0012
RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHNT #0859 1491248
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 291249Z MAY 09
FM AMEMBASSY TASHKENT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0948
INFO RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC
RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC
RUEHNT/AMEMBASSY TASHKENT
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC

UNCLAS TASHKENT 000859

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS
DEPARTMENT FOR SCA/CEN

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PINR](#) [UZ](#)
SUBJECT: Uzbekistan: Biographic Information on New Olympic Committee Head

REF: STATE

11. (SBU) On May 13, 2009, the General Assembly of the National Olympic Committee of Uzbekistan elected Malik Babaev Chairman of the National Olympic Committee of Uzbekistan. He replaced Rustam Kurbanov, who was appointed to this position in March 2009 immediately after being relieved of his position as Minister of Sports and Culture. Prior to this assignment, Babaev served as Secretary-General of the National Olympic Committee of Uzbekistan between 2001 and 2009.

12. (SBU) Malik Babaev was born in Tashkent to a family of scholars. In 1984, he graduated from the Department of Arabic Philology in the Faculty of Oriental Studies at Tashkent State University. In the 1980s, he served as an interpreter for Soviet advisers in Arab states. In 2005, he received a Master's degree in management and marketing of sports organizations from the University of Claude Bernard Lyon I (Lyon, France), according to the MEMOS program of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). Babaev won the Meritorious Award of the Olympic Council of Asia for his active participation in promoting and developing the Olympics in Asia. In May 2007, he won an IOC award for his significant contributions in developing the Olympics in Uzbekistan. Babaev also serves as Director of National Courses on IOC Olympic Solidarity programs, a member of the Permanent Judicial Committee of the Olympic Council of Asia, President of Federal Sport Dancing of Uzbekistan, and Deputy Chairman of the Commission on the Organization and Holding of World Tournaments of the International Boxing Federation.

13. (SBU) Comment: In January 2009, President Karimov signed the resolution "On preparation of Uzbek sportsmen for participation in the 30th Summer Olympic Games and the 14th Paralympic Games in 2012 in London." Babaev will be responsible for implementing this decree.
NORLAND